

# MODERN

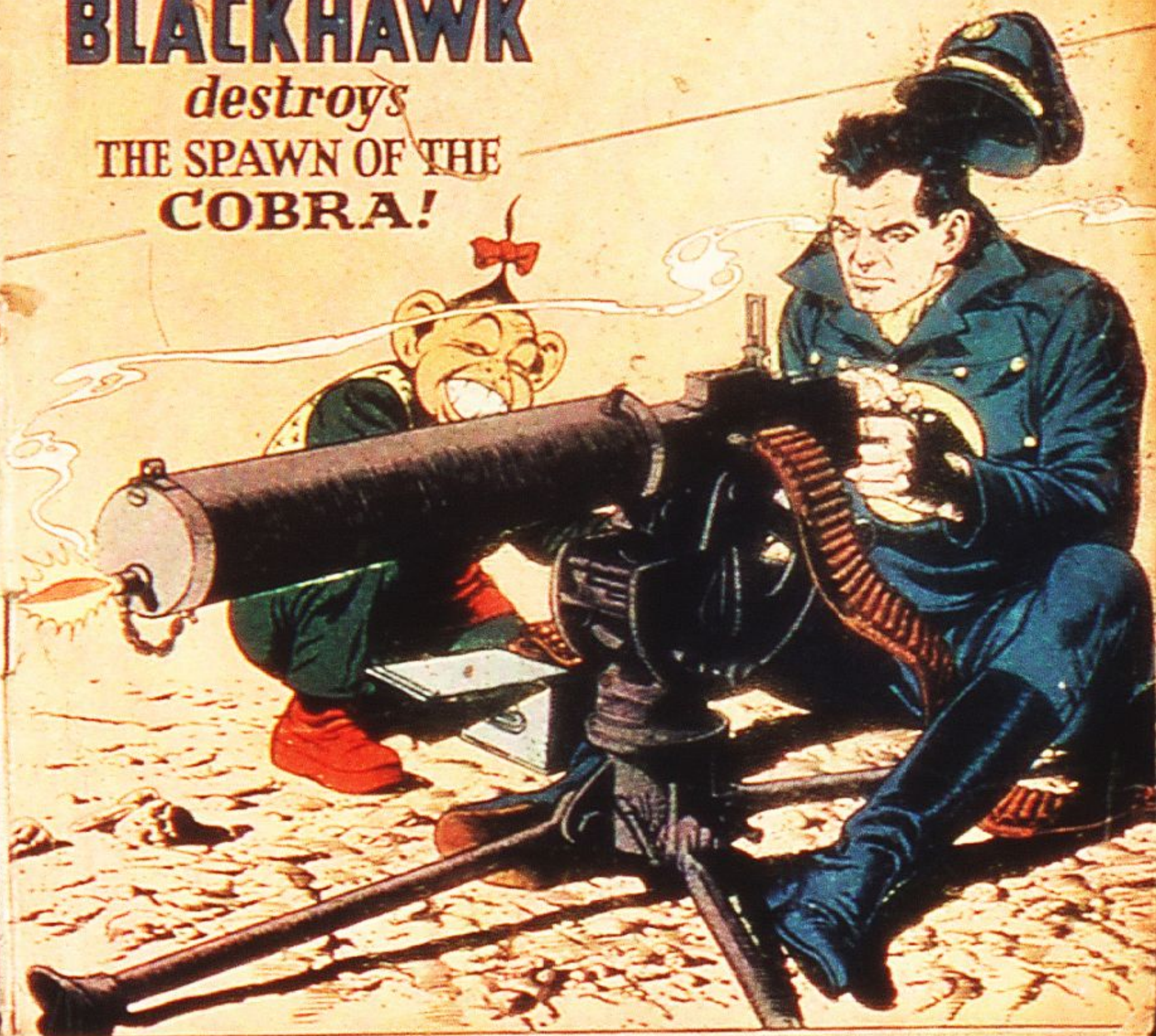
## COMICS

10¢

MARCH  
No. 71

### BLACKHAWK

*destroys*  
THE SPAWN OF THE  
**COBRA!**







WEB COMIC  
UNIVERSE.COM



# AMAZING! NEW!

## ELECTRONIC

### JUKE-BOX

## BANK

Now You Can Get a KICK out of Saving!  
**LIGHTS MAGICALLY!**  
 WHEN COIN IS INSERTED

**H**ERE is the most remarkable bank ever offered to the public. Imagine getting a bank that looks and works like a real Juke Box. It's great fun to insert coins from pennies up to quarters and watch the Juke Box Bank MAGICALLY LIGHT UP just like a real Juke Box would. Made of colorful plastic and metal, beautifully hand painted. Makes saving a pleasure.



**IT LIGHTS!**  
 when coin is inserted

only  
**\$1.69**



1. Put plunger all the way out



2. Push coin in as provided



3. Push plunger all the way in



4. Watch it magically light up!

### SEND NO MONEY

Just send name and address. Pay postman \$1.69 plus a few cents postage on delivery or send a check or money order, we pay postage. Inspect the Juke Box Bank for five days. If not delighted, return it and your money will be cheerfully refunded. Send your order NOW.

### SEND NO MONEY

SHAR-LEE CO., 323 West Division St., Dept. CH  
 Chicago, Ill.

Send me the Electronic Juke Box Bank on 10 day trial at only \$1.69 each. I may return within 10 days for full purchase price refund.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zone \_\_\_\_\_

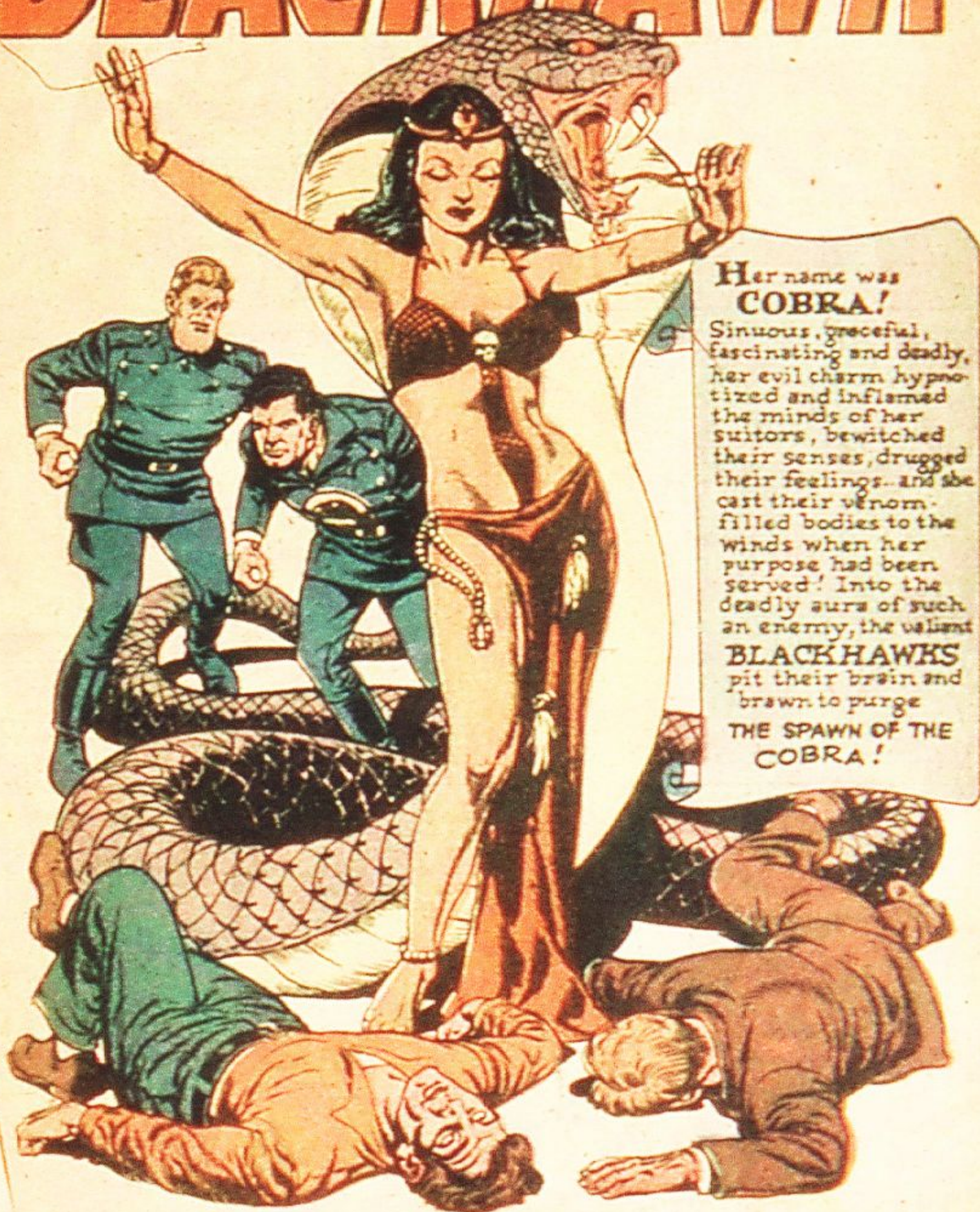
State \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I am enclosing \$1.69. Send Juke Box Bank Please

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# BLACKHAWK



Her name was  
**COBRA!**

Sinuous, graceful, fascinating and deadly, her evil charm hypnotized and inflamed the minds of her suitors, bewitched their senses, drugged their feelings... and she cast their venom-filled bodies to the winds when her purpose had been served! Into the deadly aura of such an enemy, the valiant **BLACKHAWKS** pit their brain and brawn to purge **THE SPAWN OF THE COBRA!**



# WARSHIPS OF ALL NATIONS UNDERGO 'CANNING' PROCESS!

PLANES AND SHIPS TO BE SEALED IN PLASTIC 'BUBBLE'!  
A process whereby the mighty battle fleets of the world are to be protected from the ravages of the elements.



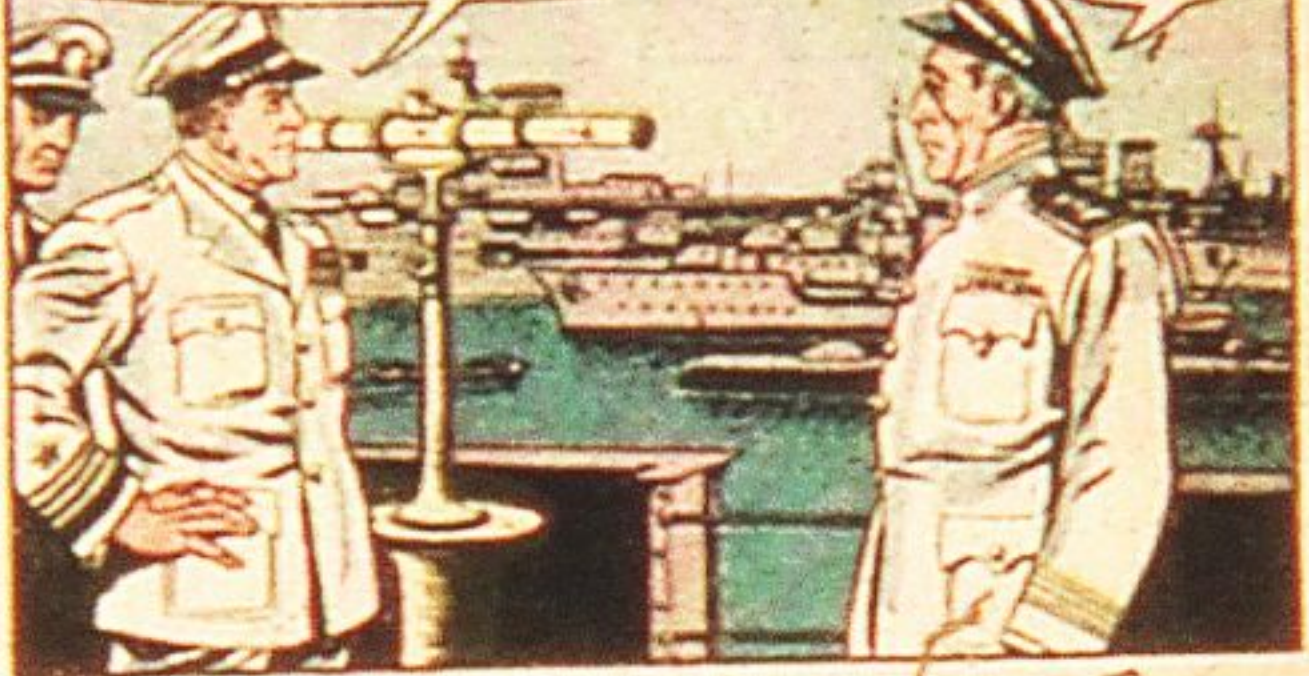
READ ME  
THE OPEN  
TECHNIQUE

READ ME  
THE OPEN  
TECHNIQUE

At an internationally controlled port on the Atlantic....

WELL, GENTLEMEN, OPERATION MUMMY IS ALMOST COMPLETED! THE HORNETS OF THE SEAS HAVE HAD THEIR STINGERS REMOVED!

BY JOVE, I HAVE A LONESOME FEELING IN THE PIT OF MY STOMACH, BUT I CAN'T SAY I'M SORRY!



GENTLEMEN, I PROPOSE A TOAST! LET US DRINK TO A HOPE CHERISHED BY MAN SINCE THE BEGINNING OF TIME... **PEACE IN OUR TIMES!**

BRAVO!

WELL SPOKEN!



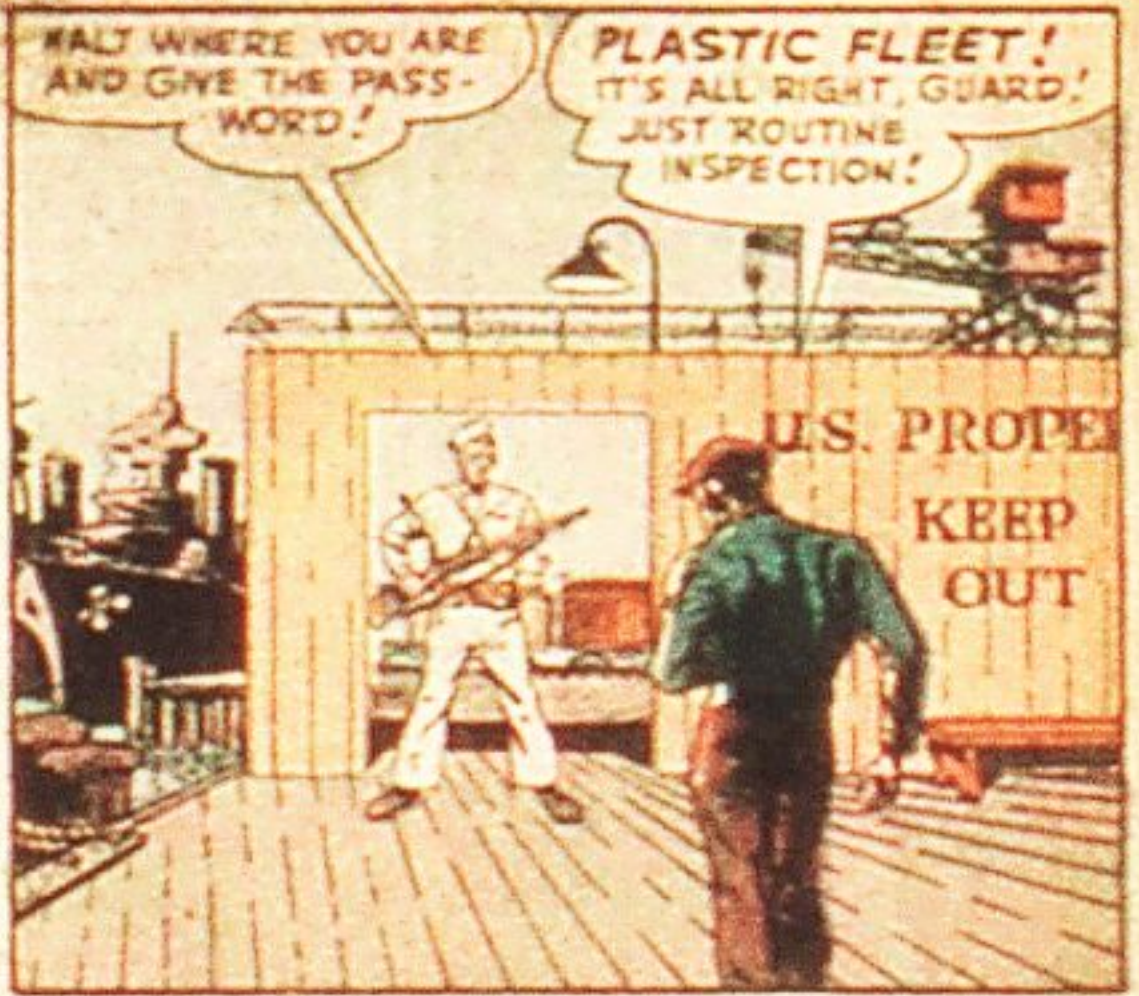
HELLO, CONTROL ROOM? CONNECT ME WITH THE INTERNATIONAL FLEET INTELLIGENCE... AND KILL EVERY OPEN SWITCH ON THIS BOARD!

YES, SIR!

INTELLIGENCE? THIS IS ADMIRAL RICHARDS SPEAKING! SEND A CODED MESSAGE TO ALL HEADQUARTERS AS FOLLOWS: PASS-WORD FOR OPERATION MUMMY IS **PLASTIC FLEET!**











MR. BLACKHAWK, SIR! I WAS TOLD TO GIVE YOU THIS BRIEFCASE! VITAL INFORMATION, SIR!

BRIEFCASE? FOR ER- YES! THANKS, SON!



Later, at Blackhawk Island...

THAT'S IT, MEN! A BIG ASSIGNMENT, AND AS USUAL, NO CLUES! ...NO INFORMATION... NO NOTHING! WE START FROM SCRATCH!

EH, BIEN! BUT WHAT OF THE BRIEFCASE YOU HAVE BROUGHT?



THE DEVIL! I COMPLETELY FORGOT... BUT IT CAN TELL US LITTLE MORE THAN THE COMMITTEE ALREADY KNOWS!

WELL, EVEN VON CLUE IS BETTER THAN NONE!



SACRE MONDE! LOOK OUT!

WH...??

STAND CLEAR!

BANG!



GENTLEMEN, THERE'S OUR CLUE! A HOODED COBRA!

MON DIEU! ONE BITE AND... PHEWTT... ZE KEEES OF DEATH!



HEY, GET A LOAD OF THIS RADAR SCREEN! MUST BE A CONVOY PASSING!

WHAT? THESE WATERS ARE POISON TO NAVIGATORS! PIN-POINT THEIR POSITION AND GET AN ESTIMATE OF THE NUMBER OF SHIPS, CHUCK!



IT'S A CONVOY, ALL RIGHT! CAN'T FIGURE OUT HOW MANY, BUT THEY'RE HEADED NORTH BY NORTHEAST... 'BOUT TWO MILES OFF THE COAST!

ANDRE! HENDRICKSON! TO THE SPEEDBOAT! YOU OTHERS STAY HERE UNTIL YOU HEAR FROM US! CHUCK, MONITOR THAT FREQUENCY!





BRRR! IT ISS NOT A HUMAN BEING DOT VOULD USE A SNAKE AS A VEAPON!



TRES BIEN! WE WEEEL DRIFT BEHIND AND WAIT FOR YOU!



AU VOIR, MON AMI! AND GOOD HUNTEENG! WE WEEEL STAND BY!







CHUCK, COME IN, QUIETLY! THIS IS BLACKHAWK! I'M SCREWING DOWN THE SENDING KEY! SHE'S SET FOR A STEADY CW SIGNAL... KEEP US FIXED! COME IN, CHUCK!

SIGNAL STRONG... RECEPTION GOOD! ROGER... OUT!



THERE HE IS! TAKE HIM ALIVE, IF POSSIBLE!

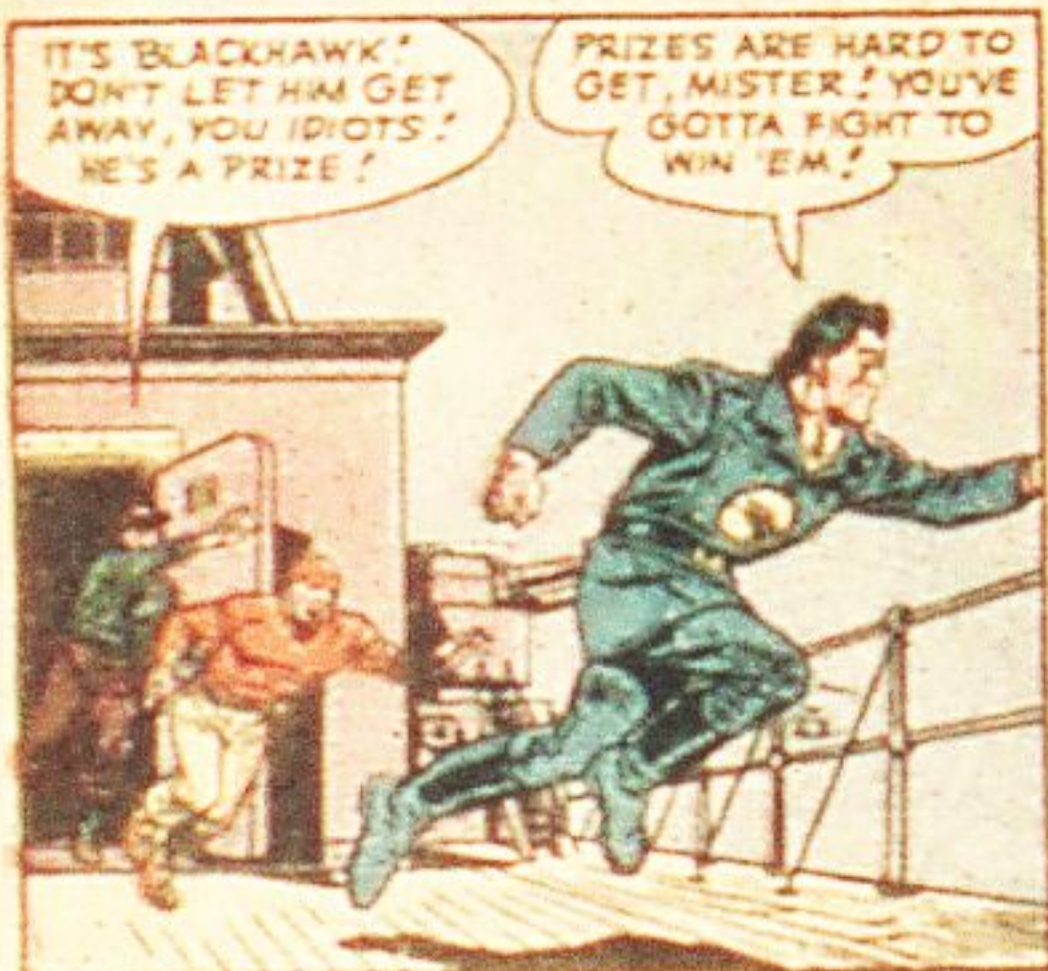
IT'S GOING TO BE TOUGH PICKINGS, AMIGOS! COME AND GET ME!



THIS RUMPUS WILL ROUSE THE SHIP! I'LL HAVE TO WARN THE OTHERS! CHUCK WILL HEAR!

UGH!

BOYS WILL BE BOYS! TSK! TSK!



IT'S BLACKHAWK! DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY, YOU IDIOTS! HE'S A PRIZE!

PRIZES ARE HARD TO GET, MISTER! YOU'VE GOTTA FIGHT TO WIN 'EM!



ANDRE! HENDRICKSON! CAST OFF! UGH!

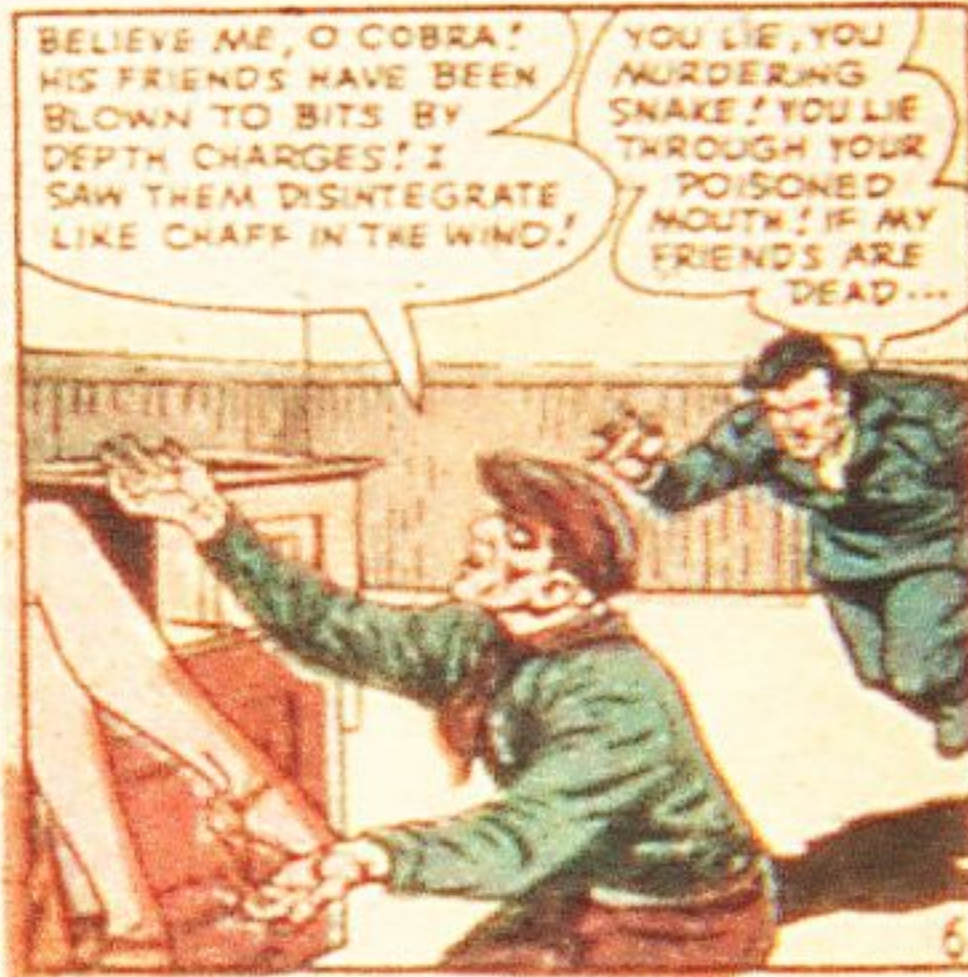
DRAW HIM BELOW AND DUMP SOME DEPTH CHARGES OVERBOARD! THOSE OTHERS MUST BE DESTROYED!



Slowly, consciousness returns....

THIS IS THE ONE KNOWN AS BLACKHAWK, O COBRA! HIS CAPTURE ALONE ASSURES YOUR PLANS OF SUCCESS!

YOU KNOW NAUGHT OF MY PLANS, FANG! BUT OF BUNGLING YOU KNOW MUCH! HSSS! HIS FRIENDS ESCAPED, I PRESUME?



BELIEVE ME, O COBRA! HIS FRIENDS HAVE BEEN BLOWN TO BITS BY DEPTH CHARGES! I SAW THEM DISINTEGRATE LIKE CHAFF IN THE WIND!

YOU LIE, YOU MURDERING SNAKE! YOU LIE THROUGH YOUR POISONED MOUTH! IF MY FRIENDS ARE DEAD...





HSSS! KEEP YOUR DISTANCE, GUARDS! IF FANG LIES, THIS STRANGER'S FISTS WILL SOON FIND OUT!



HSSS! SIEZE THE STRANGER GUARDS! THE FANG IS INCAPABLE OF SPEECH!



YOUR BEST WAS NOT GOOD ENOUGH, FANG! THEIR ESCAPE MAY WELL INTERFERE WITH MY PLANS!



HSSS! TRUE WORDS, FANG! YOU HAVE ALSO SERVED YOUR PURPOSE! NOW DIE LIKE THE CARELESS WRETCH YOU ARE!



FLATTERY DOESN'T INTEREST ME! HAVING WITNESSED YOUR METHODS, I WILL NOT BE SO FOOLISH AS TO ASK WHAT YOU INTEND DOING WITH ME!



SERPENTS REPEL ME, COBRA... ESPECIALLY THE VENEMOUS TYPE! WHAT DOES INTEREST ME IS YOUR MOTIVE IN THIS MAD UNDER-TAKING!



ORDER FULL SPEED! AHEAD! CREW AT BATTLE STATIONS! FIRE FORWARD TURRETS WHEN IN RANGE!









YOU ARE WRONG, BLACKHAWK!  
I WILL BE SOUGHT IN VAIN ACROSS  
THE SEVEN SEAS... BUT COMMON  
MAN WILL NEVER UNCOVER MY  
CRYPT! SEE HOW THE FACE OF  
THE ROCK MOUNTAIN  
PARTS?

WORSE LUCK!  
EVEN IF THEY  
SUCCEED IN  
TRACKING ME  
HERE, THE BOYS  
WILL NEVER  
CRACK THIS  
NATURAL  
VAULT! I'LL  
HAVE TO  
PLAY HER  
GAME!



CONFESS IT, BLACKHAWK!  
YOU ARE IMPRESSED, EH?  
ALREADY I HAVE ACCUMULATED  
THE STRENGTH OF A LARGE  
NATION... AND MORE IS  
COMING! PLANES, TANKS,  
WARSHIPS... ALL THE  
ARMAMENTS BEING  
DISCARDED BY  
YOUR PEACE-  
LOVING NATIONS!

IT'S FANTASTIC!  
I DIDN'T REALIZE  
YOU OPERATED  
ON SUCH A  
LARGE  
SCALE!



Later, in a subterranean cave...

I'LL BE BRIEF, BLACKHAWK! MY  
ARMADAS ARE GROWING DAILY!  
WITH EACH ADDITION, THE SLEEPING  
NATIONS OF THE WORLD GROW  
CORRESPONDINGLY WEAKER UNTIL,  
ONE DAY, THEY  
SHALL LIE  
PROSTRATE  
AT MY FEET!

LOGICAL,  
SO FAR!  
PLEASE  
CONTINUE!



I AM A WOMAN, BLACKHAWK!  
NEITHER POWER, WEALTH NOR  
KINGDOMS CAN GIVE THE ONE  
THING I DESIRE MOST...  
A MATE TO SHARE WITH  
ME THE MOST FABULOUS  
FORTUNE IN THE  
WORLD!

MEANING  
MYSELF?  
WELL, I'D  
BE A FOOL TO  
TURN DOWN YOUR  
OFFER WITHOUT  
PROPER  
CONSIDERA-  
TION!



WARNING SIGNAL... PURPLE!  
TRAWLER SIGHTED ONE MILE OFF  
ISLAND! SPEED, FIVE KNOTS!  
HEADING DUE EAST! ANY  
ORDERS?

WH...? A  
TRAWLER HERE?  
STAND BY! I'LL  
LOOK AND CALL  
YOU BACK!



I'LL BE DISAPPOINTED  
TO THINK THAT YOUR  
COLOSSAL PLANS  
INCLUDE SUCH PALTRY  
PRIZES AS  
THAT!

A SCURVY TRAMP!  
YOU'RE RIGHT, BLACK-  
HAWK! OUR PRIZES  
SHALL BE VASTLY  
RICHER! HELLO,  
CONTROL ROOM!  
LET HER PASS...  
SHE'LL SINK OF  
HER OWN ACCORD  
IN A SHORT TIME!



Aboard the SCURVY TRAMP....

ZEE'S EES EEMPOSSEEBLE!  
OUR RADAR AND DIRECTION  
FINDERS TELL US THEES EES  
ZE LOCATION OF ZE  
LOST FLEET...AND  
YET WE SEE NOTHEENG  
BUT A ROCK  
ISLAND!

OUR  
EQUIPMENT  
IS INFALLIBLE,  
ANDRE! THAT  
FLEET'S AROUND  
HERE, SOME-  
WHERE!



EH, BIEN, M'SIEURS!  
MOOR ZE SHIP LEEWARD  
OF ZE ISLAND! MY FRIENDS  
AND I WEEL SWEEM TO  
SHORE AND  
INVESTIGATE!

VERY WELL,  
SIR! WE'LL  
COVER YOU  
WITH EVERY  
AVAILABLE  
GUN!



ALLONS, MES AMIS!  
EEF BLACKHAWK EES  
STEEL ALIVE, HE EES  
SOMEWHERE ON  
ZAT ISLAND!

IF HE IS DEAD, I  
PLEDGE  
DER REST  
OF MY LIFE  
TO DER EX-  
TERMINATION  
OF DER  
COBRA!



BON! UNDERWATER  
AS LONG AS POSSIBLE,  
MEN! EEF WE  
ARE BEING  
WATCHED, EET  
WOULD GO  
BADLY WEETH  
US TO BE  
SEEN!

TAKE YOUR  
TIME, AND  
GOOD  
LUCK!  
SIGNAL US  
IF YOU  
RUN INTO  
TROUBLE!



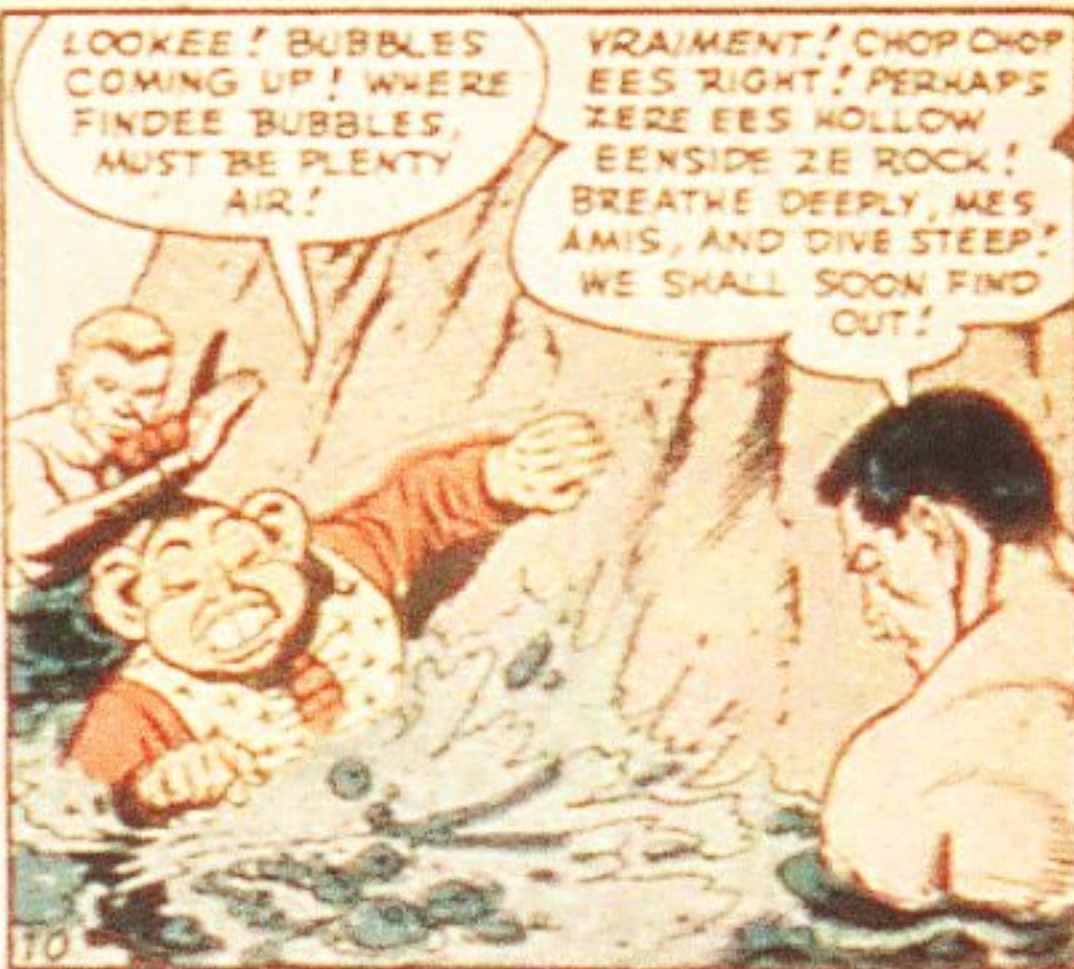
SACRE BLEU!  
NOTHEENG, NOT EVEN  
A BIRD, COULD FIND A  
FOOT-HOLD ON THEES  
ROCK!

BY GAR! AY  
TINK WE BAN  
ON WRONG  
TRACK!



LOOKEE! BUBBLES  
COMING UP! WHERE  
FINDEE BUBBLES,  
MUST BE PLENTY  
AIR!

VRAIMENT! CHOP CHOP  
EES RIGHT! PERHAPS  
ZERE EES HOLLOW  
EENSIDE ZE ROCK!  
BREATHE DEEPLY, MES  
AMIS, AND DIVE STEEP!  
WE SHALL SOON FIND  
OUT!







PERHAPS THEES  
EES ZE ANSWER!  
WE CANNOT HOLD  
OUT MUCH LONGER  
WEETHOUT AIR!  
BUT WE MUST  
TAKE ZE  
CHANCE!



SACRE BLEU!  
WHAT LUCK! WE  
SURFACE WITHIN  
SOME HUGE,  
SUBTERRANEAN  
CAVE!



YUMPIN' YUMMINY!  
AY TINK AY BAN  
DREAMING,  
HUH?

MA FOY! ENOUGH  
WARSHIPS HERE TO  
CONQUER ZE UNARMED  
WORLD! QUIETLY,  
MES AMIS, WE MUST  
NOT BE  
DISCOVERED!



SO FAR, SO GOOD! EEF  
ZERE EES TROUBLE, FIGHT  
AS YOU HAVE NEVAIRE FOUGHT  
BEFORE! REMEMBER, WE  
CAN EXPECT NO HELP IN  
HERE FROM ZE TRAWLER!

WE HEAR  
VOICES OF  
ANCESTORS  
CALLING WHEN  
YOU TALKEE  
LIKEE SO,  
ANDLE!



TAKE 'EM ALIVE,  
MEN! THE COBRA  
WILL WANT TO  
QUESTION  
THEM!

ZEEES EES EET,  
MES AMIS! BACK  
TO ZE SHIP, ZOSE  
WHO CAN!



THIS ONE'S  
TOUGH! GIVE  
HIM A DOUBLE  
DOSE!

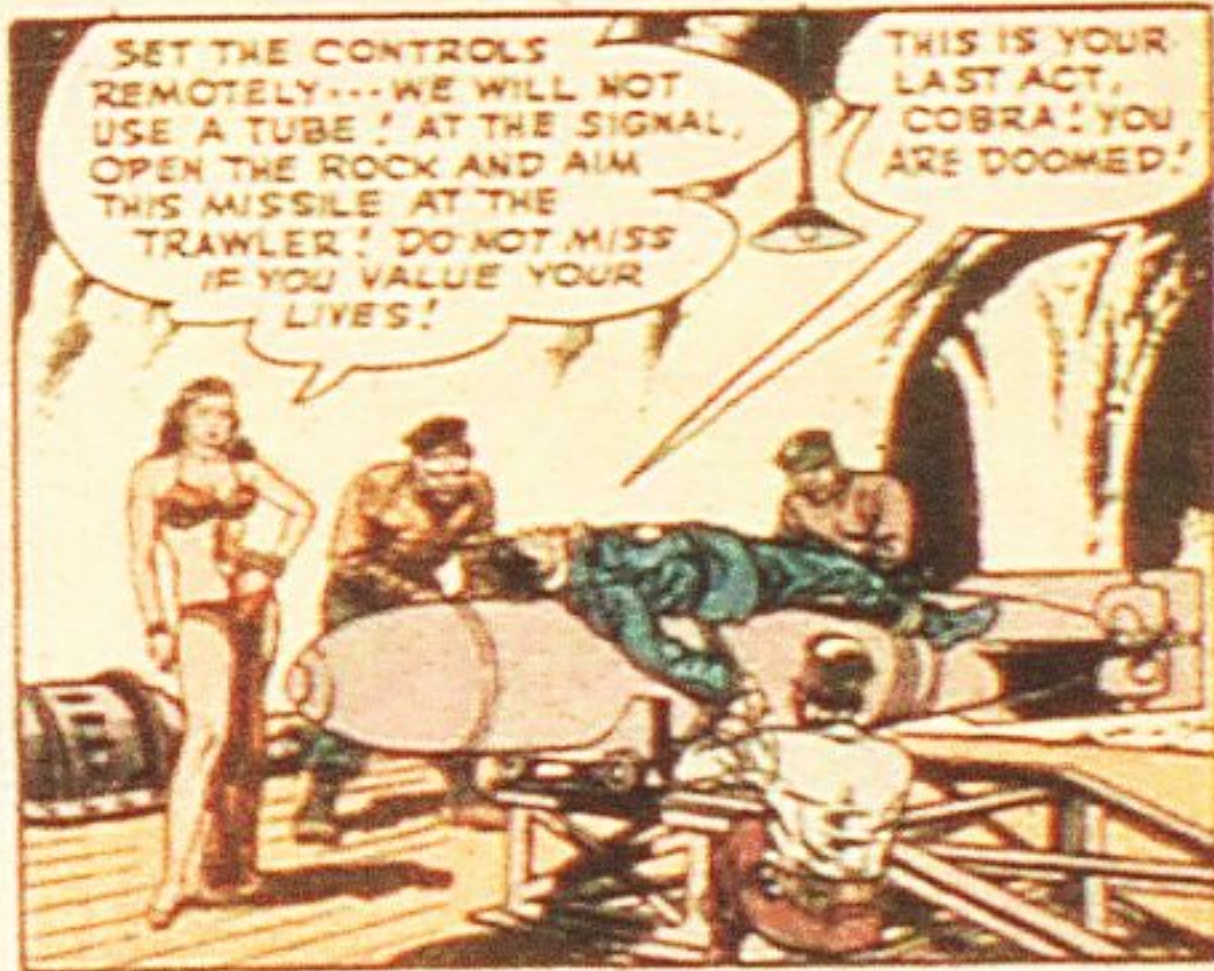
UGH!  
OHHH!



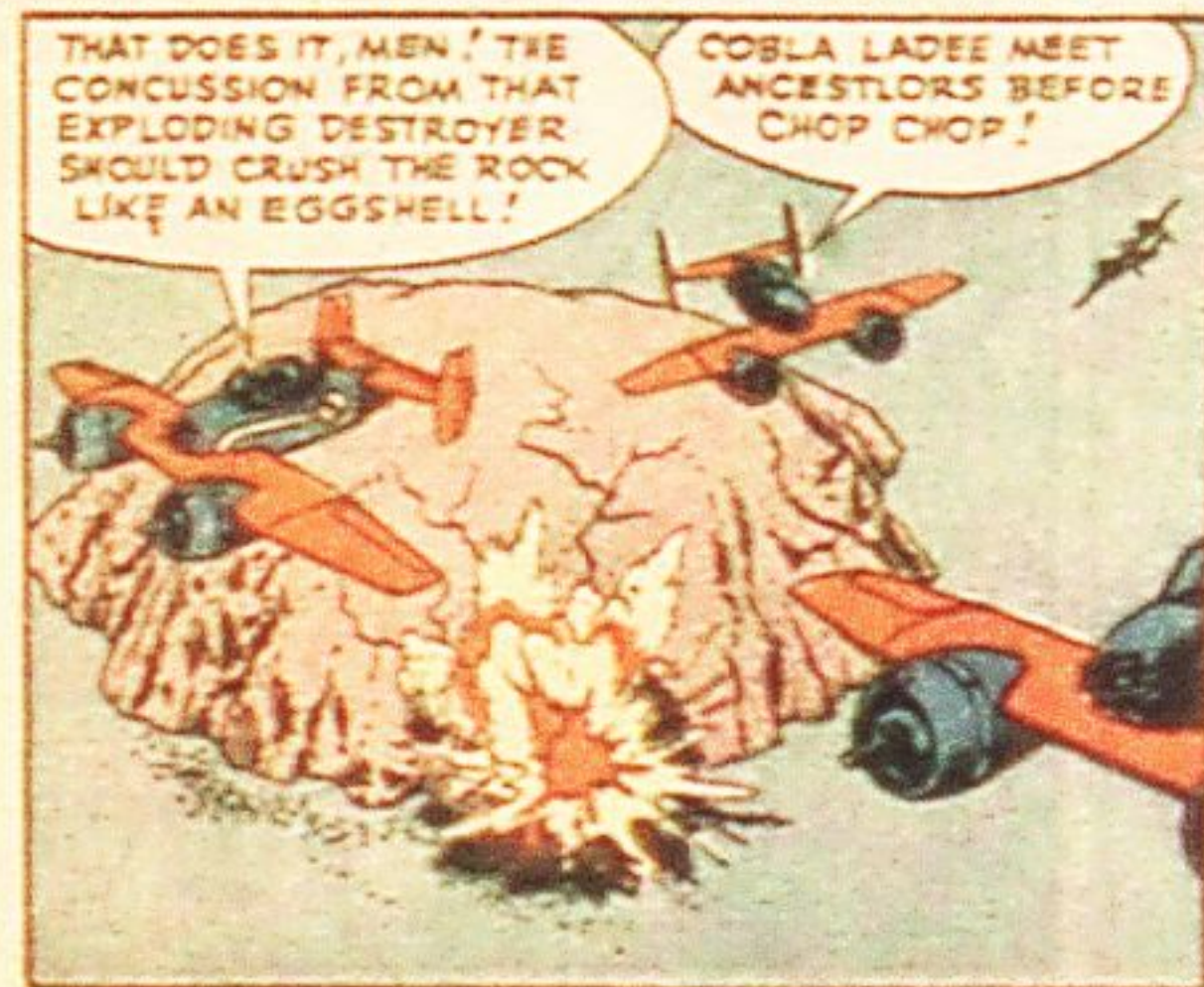
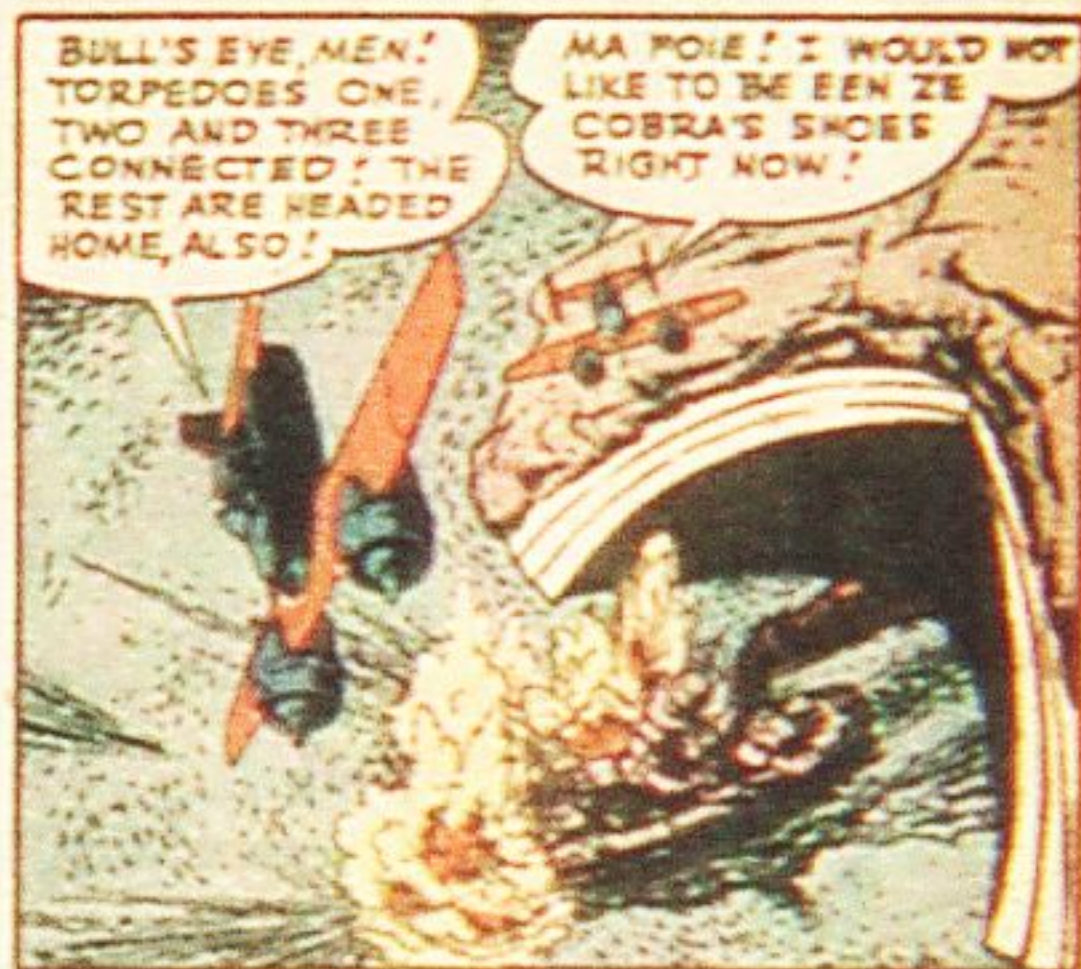
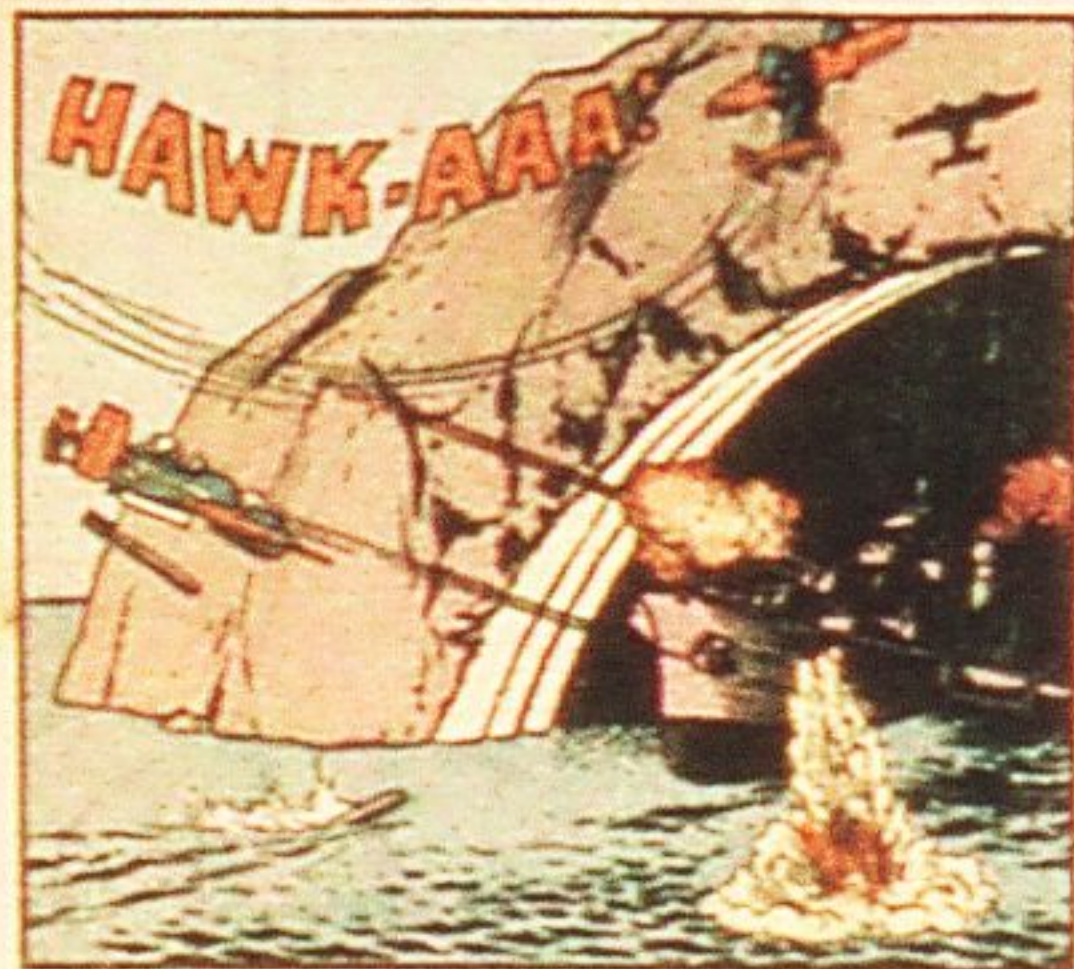
BLACKHAWK, MON AMI!  
YOU ARE SAFE! AT  
LEAST WE SHALL SHARE  
ZE SAME FATE  
TOGETHER!

HSSS! YOUR FRIENDS  
ARE FOOLHARDY BUT  
LOYAL, BLACKHAWK!  
YOU MAY INFORM  
THEM THAT MY PLANS DO  
NOT INCLUDE THEM...  
ALIVE!











# Torchy

BUT, MA CHERIE...  
YOU ARE NOT  
SUPPOSED TO  
KEET ME! I  
AM SUPPOSED  
TO KEET YOU!

I KNOW...  
BUT THIS'LL  
GIVE THE DANCE  
A NEW SLANT!



ALL RIGHT, OSGOOD!  
IT'S A DATE! I'LL  
GET DRESSED!

OSGOOD IS SUCH A  
MOUSE! BUT HE'S SO  
HURT WHENEVER I  
REFUSE TO GO OUT  
WITH HIM THAT I  
JUST CAN'T DO  
IT!











TORCHY, PLEASE MARRY ME! I'VE GOT LOADS OF MONEY! I'LL GIVE YOU ANYTHING! I'LL BE THE KINDEST, BEST HUSBAND IN THE WORLD!

OH, OSGOOD—PLEASE DON'T!

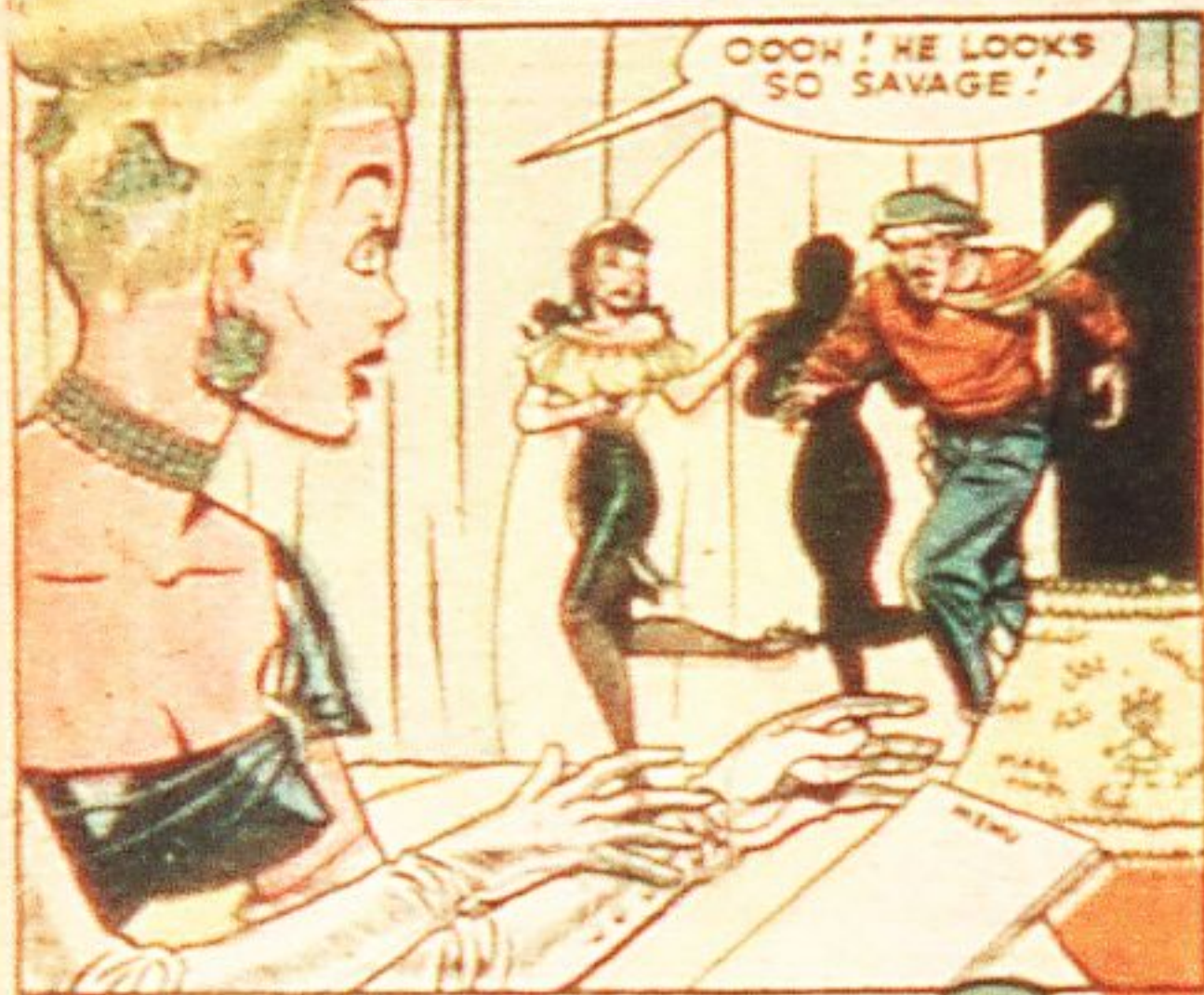


BUT WHY NOT?

I DON'T KNOW! I KNOW YOU'RE GOOD AND GENEROUS... BUT...



AND NOW, MESDAMES ET MESSIEURS, WE GEEV YOU THOSE SENSATIONAL APACHE DANCERS, PIERRE AND LILI!



OOOH! HE LOOKS SO SAVAGE!



GOODNESS! I'M CERTAIN HE'S HURTING HER!



HOW BRUTAL!

HOW WONDERFUL!



WHAT? YOU MEAN, YOU THINK WHAT HE'S DOING IS NICE?

WELL—I... YES... WHY DIDN'T I EVER THINK OF IT BEFORE? THAT'S WHY I CAN'T MARRY YOU, OSGOOD!









OH, DEAR! I SHOULDN'T DO THIS! IT'S UNFAIR TO OSGOOD, BECAUSE HE BROUGHT ME HERE... BUT I JUST CAN'T RESIST THAT WONDERFUL, OVERWHELMING MAN!

SLURP!



IS THAT AWFUL DANCE OVER? THANK GOODNESS!

OH, OSGOOD, I JUST REMEMBERED I WAS SUPPOSED TO CALL MY AUNT TO-NIGHT! SHE'S BEEN TERRIBLY SICK! PLEASE EXCUSE ME!



I WONDER WHICH IS HIS DRESSING ROOM! AH... HERE IT IS!



AH... YOU HAVE COME! ZAT EES GOOD!

Y-YES?



HERE EET EES! THEES EES WHAT I WEEESH TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT! I HAVE BEEN UNWILLING TO SELL THEES BRACELET UNTIL I FIND ZE WOMAN BEAUTIFUL ENOUGH TO WEAR EET! I LET YOU HAVE EET FOR TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS!

HUH? IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT-ED TO SEE ME ABOUT?



BUT, MA CHERIE... OF COURSE! WHAT ELSE?

SO PIERRE! AGAIN YOU TRY TO SELL MY JEWELRY?



AW-RRRK! BUT, LILI... OWW!

PEEG! THIEF! PEDDLER!







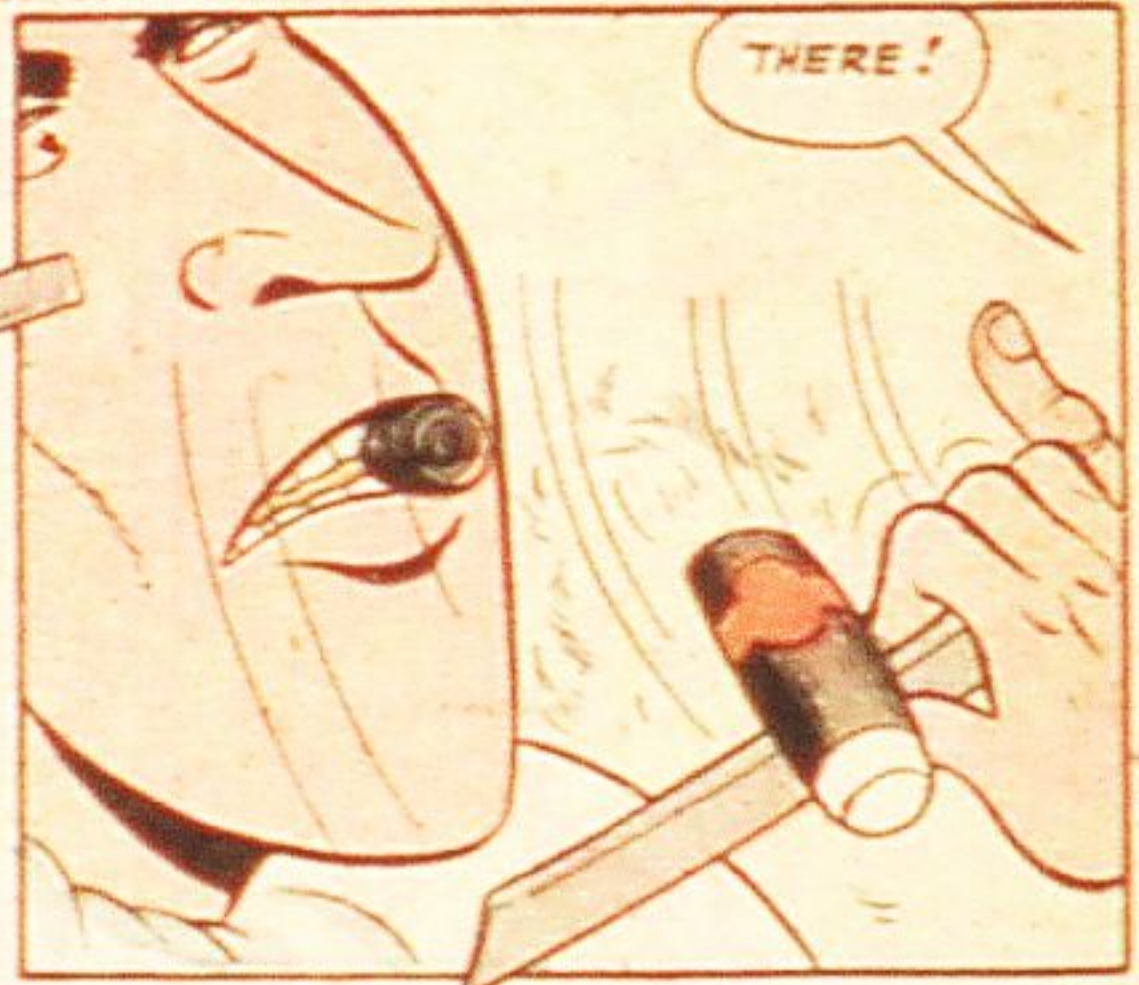
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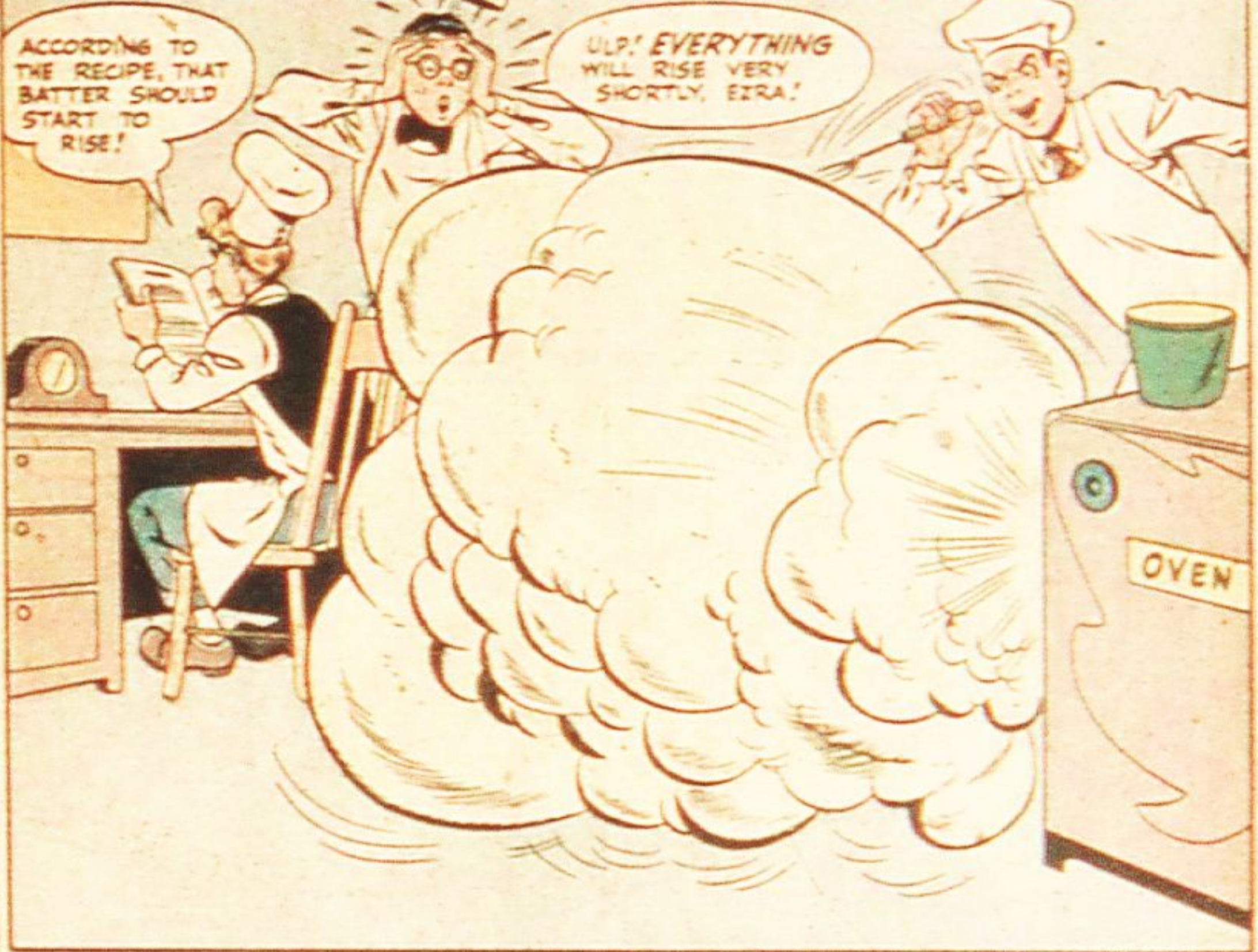


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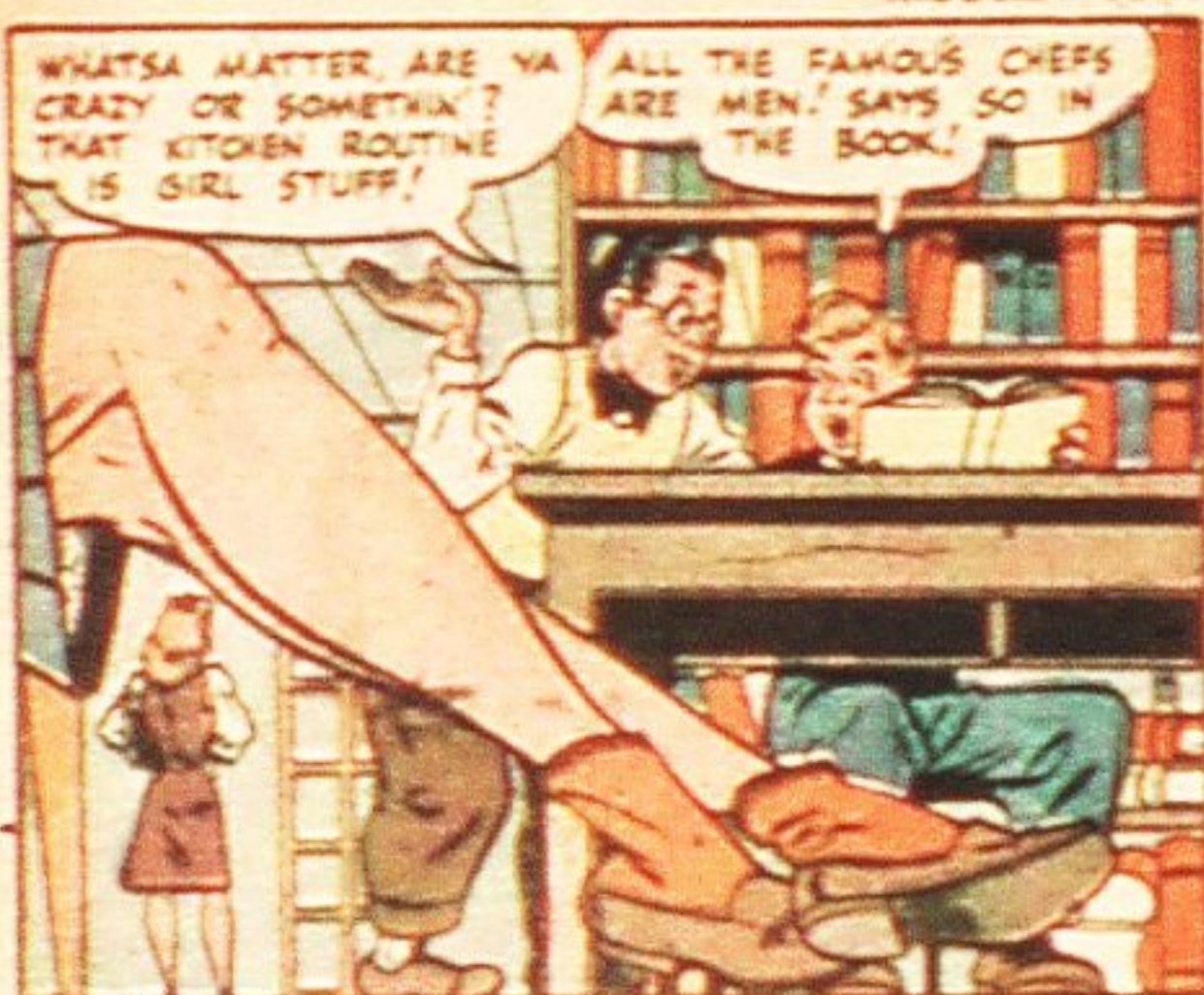




# EZRA



















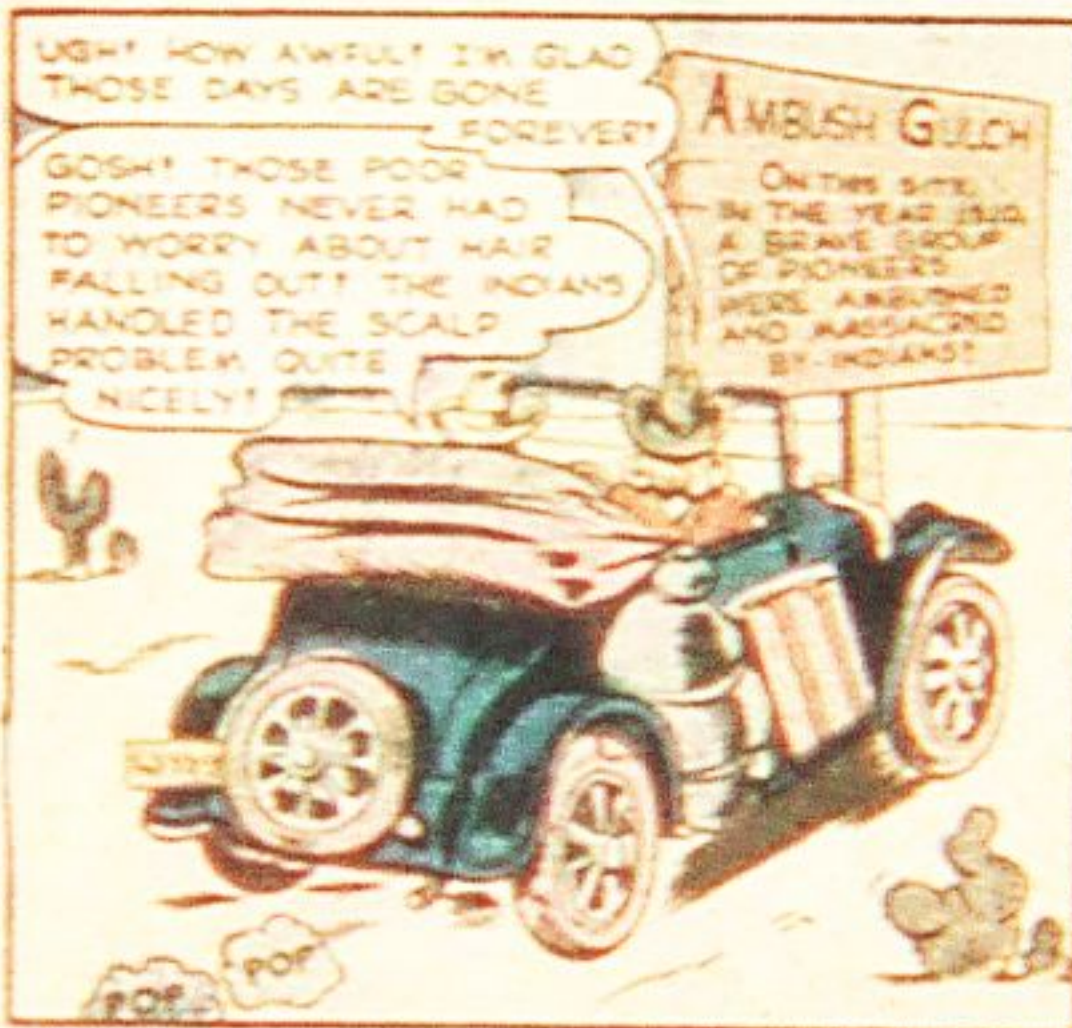




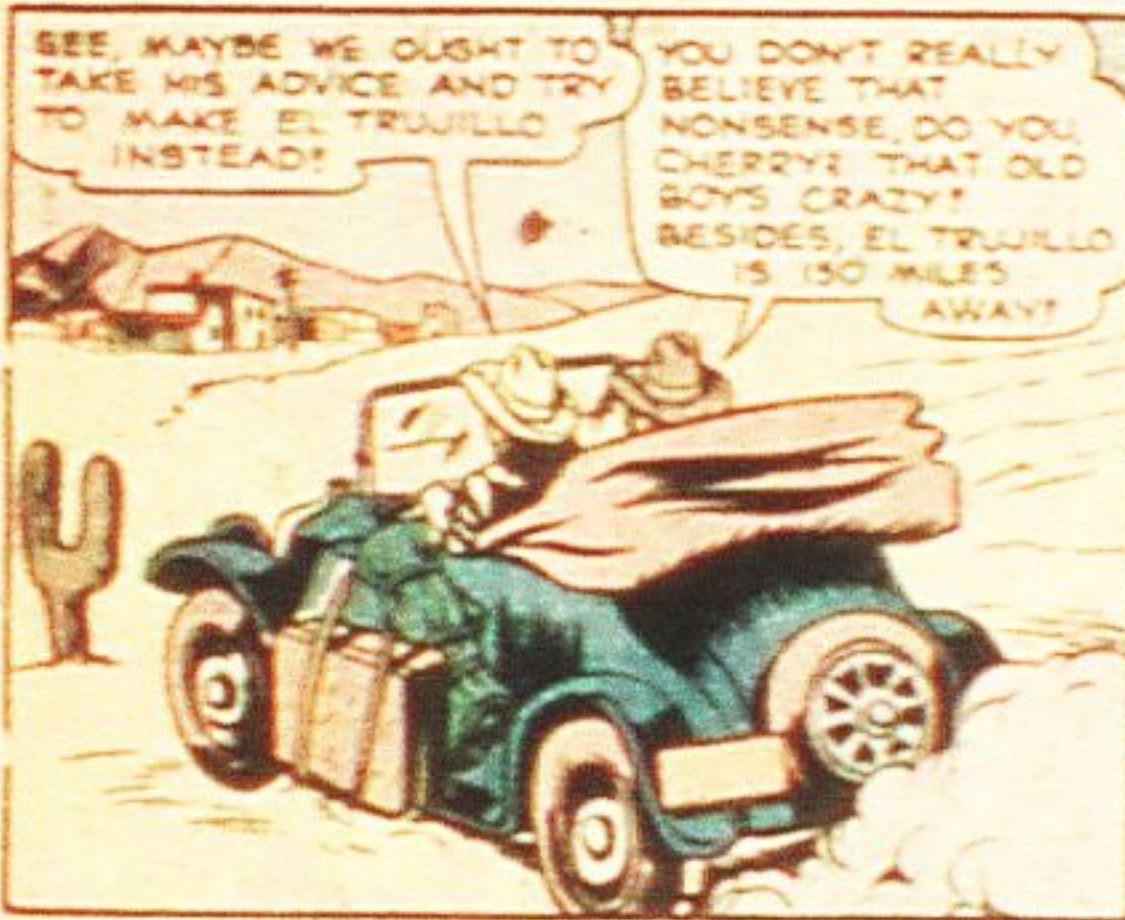
















LOOK AT THIS!

B-BULLET H-HOLES!



TO FEEL A LOT BETTER IF WE WERE BUZZING ALONG TO EL TRUJILLO!

NONSENSE! HERE WE ARE WITH A FIRST-RATE HOTEL ALL TO OURSELVES AND YOU WANNA GO SOMEWHERE ELSE!



AAHH, THE ROYAL SUITE! JUST DIG THOSE LOUIS IX BEDS!

LOUIS IX WAS TOO BIG FOR THOSE BEDS! THEY MUST BE LOUIS IX!



BIT THEM WAGONS OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE, MEN!

WHAT TH-EST?

ZZZZZ



FEED THE LEAD TO THEM VARMINTS!

PUT THE WAGONS WITH THE WOMEN FOLK AND KIDS INSIDE THE CIRCLE!

YIP-YIP-YIP-EE!



BANG! BANG! THUD... ZING!

IT M-MUST BE A MIRAGE! WE'RE SEEING THINGS!... GHOSTS!

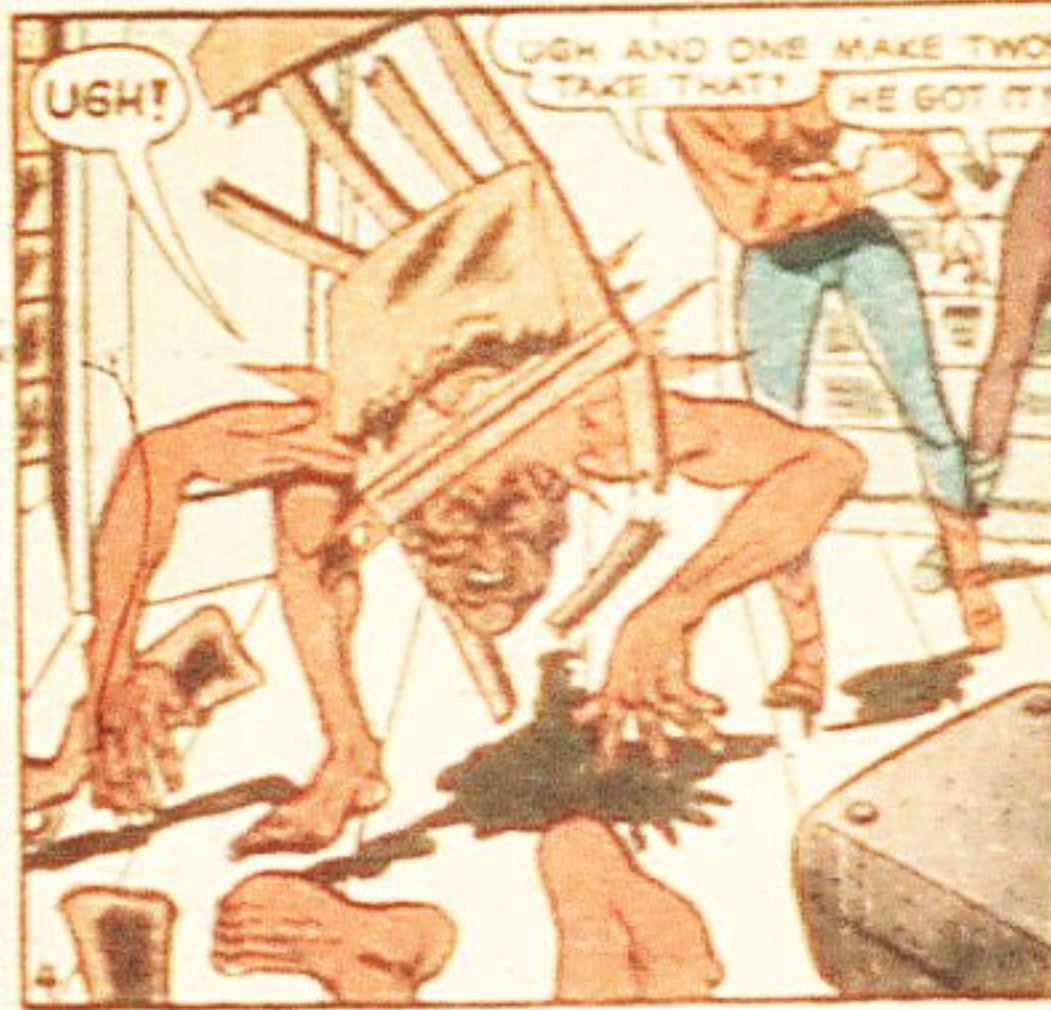
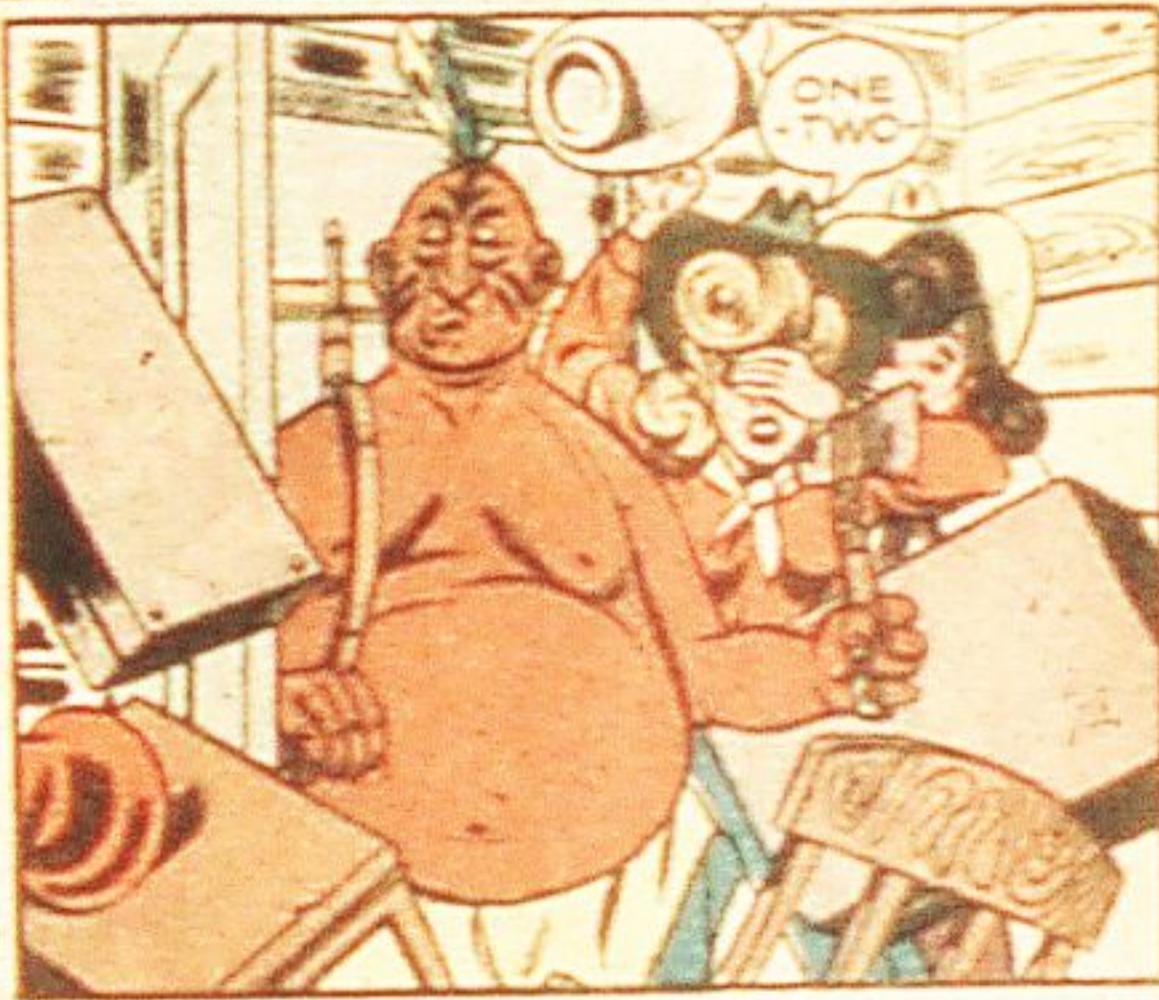
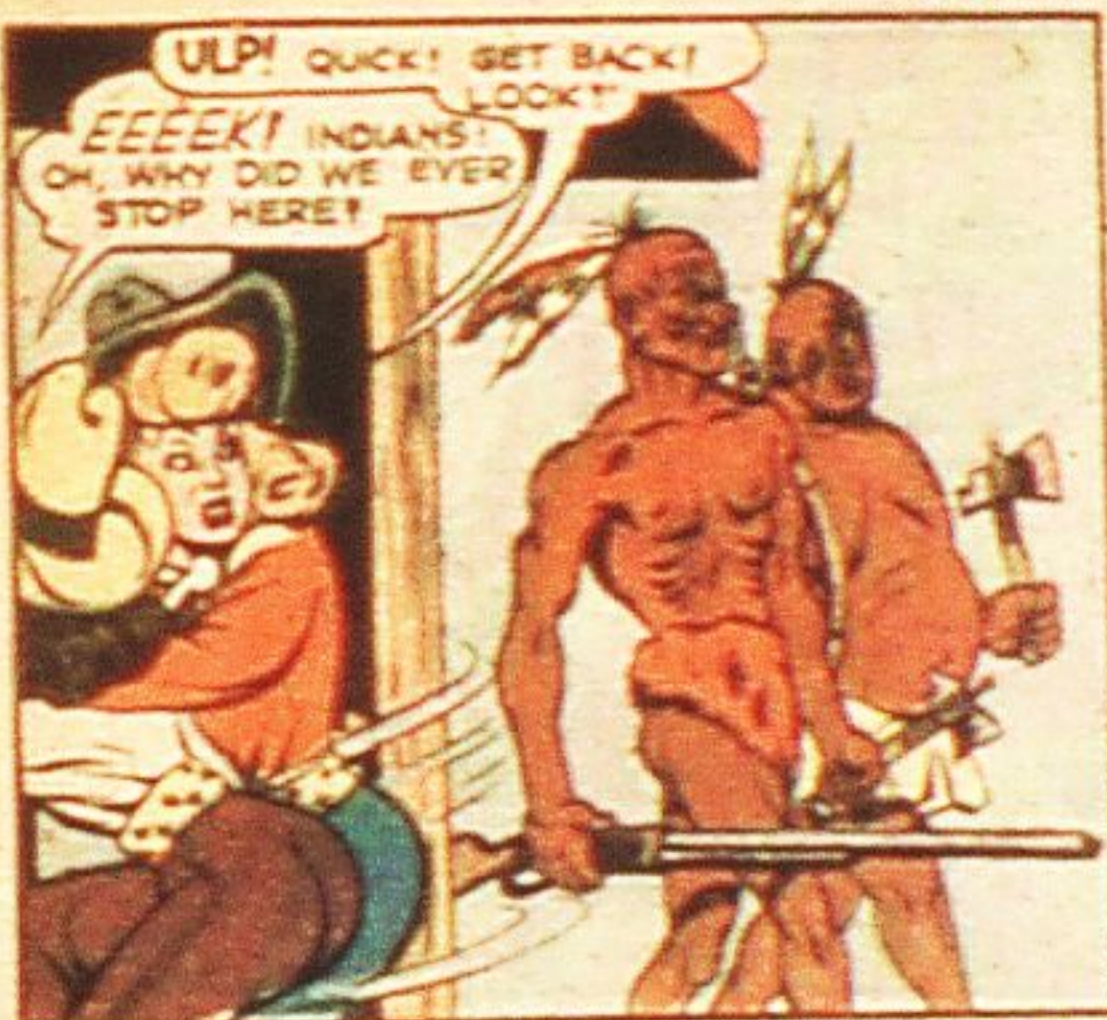
UUP! I DON'T BELIEVE IN GHOSTS! I'M GOING DOWN AND FIND OUT WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT!



WELL, I'LL BE...! THEY'RE GONE!

YOU'RE NOT KIDDING! GHOSTS DON'T HANG AROUND WAITING TO ANSWER QUESTIONS! EL TRUJILLO, HERE WE COME!

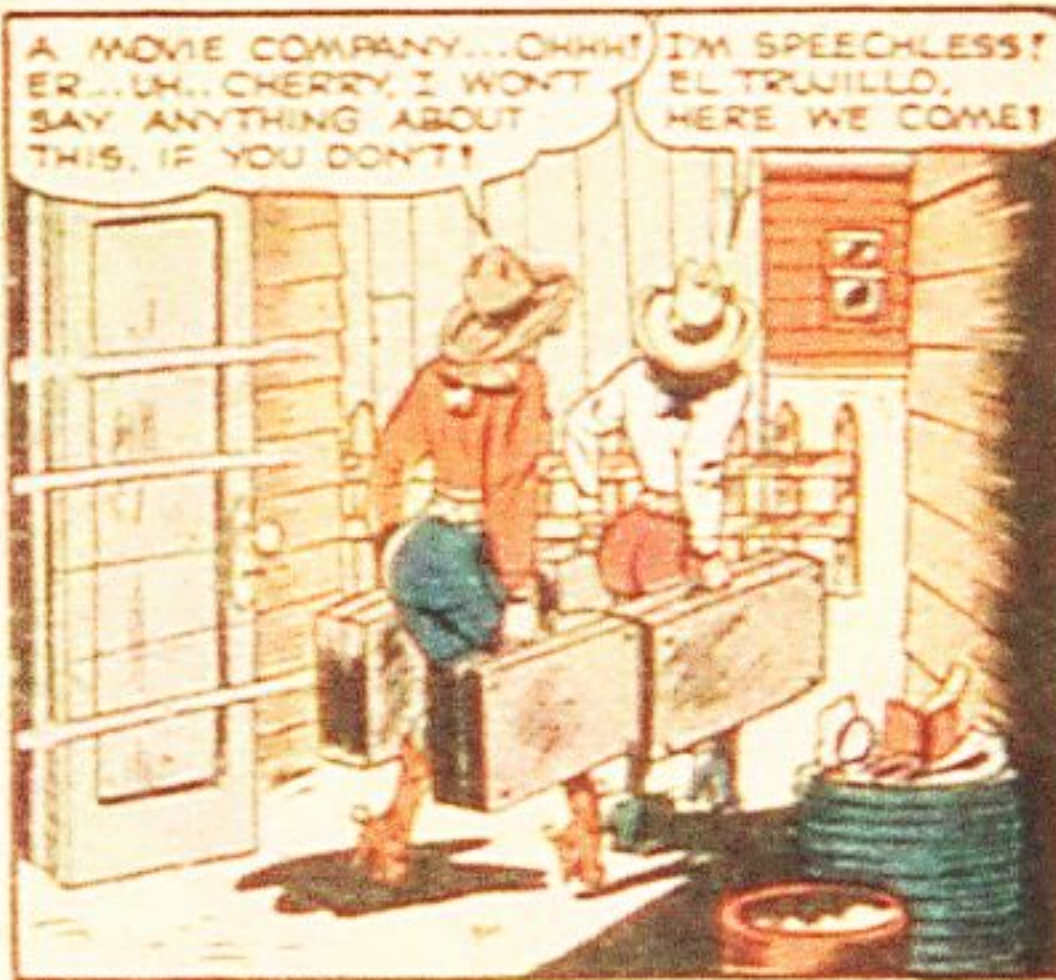














# CRIME RATS



**L**OUIE lounged in the doorway of the radio shack, thinking about nothing in particular. Ham was at the radio.

Louis was head of the Crime Rats, an organization formed by youthful gangsters who had a sour idea of the world, and what it owed them.

Ham looked up, said, "I can't get a darn thing, Louie."

"Keep tryin'." Louie lit a cigarette with the air of a veteran hard-boiled fellow. His eyes were slitted in the sharp sunlight. "We gotta pick up the boat somehow, keep bangin', they're bound to answer."

The Boat was the Crime Rats' own private vessel. They had come by it through a devious combination of thieving skill and smooth words. Now they used it to transport themselves whenever they had to move, and for hauling their loot.

Louie had a job planned for that very night. It was to be a warehouse knockover on the outskirts of Miami. He had "cased" the joint a few days earlier. It looked like an easy job.

There were six hard-bitten youths in Louie's gang. They had gathered from various waterfront cities along the East coast. And they were ready to follow wherever Louie led them—he was a clever boss.

Ted and Jim were piloting the boat at the moment. It was a fairly high-powered boat with speed. It was also armed, but on the several occasions when police had searched it, they had been unable to find any guns. That was due to Louie's cleverness.

The gang made considerable money pulling shady jobs. Not once had any of them been pinched. That too was due to Louie's cleverness, and his connection with a potent mouthpiece. This mouthpiece collected half of what they made as his salary to keep them out of trouble.

The island they were now holding down was a small one off the Bahamas. It was uninhabited, a fine hideaway, and a place from which to operate as they worked jobs.

At last Ham got through and the boat an-

swered the radio signal. The boat was on its way to the island.

When all six of the boys were gathered in their shack, Louie gave them the plan.

"It's a big warehouse on a slip," he told them. "Full of stuff we'll have no trouble gettin' rid of. We'll anchor in the slip at midnight and make the knockover all together. Ted will stay with the boat."

They pulled the job as planned, got their loot aboard the boat and were speeding toward their isle when Louie heard a plane winging over them.

"Might be Coast Guard," he said. "No lights."

They slid along at full speed without a light showing. The night was dark without moon or stars. A slight overcast lay over the sea.

"We'll be there in a couple of hours," said Ted at the wheel. "Guess that plane passed us, all right."

Louie shook his head. "I dunno. Take no chances with the law."

Aboard the big plane was a unique group of men. Known as Blackhawk, they cruised the world looking for criminals, and administering justice. Their leader, Blackhawk, himself, had been looking into a strange viewfinder as they passed over the dark speed boat. Unknown to the Crime Rats, their boat was plainly visible to their pursuers. Blackhawk studied the craft for a moment, then he said to Andre, his French aide, "Chart these specifications." He handed Andre a sheet of paper.

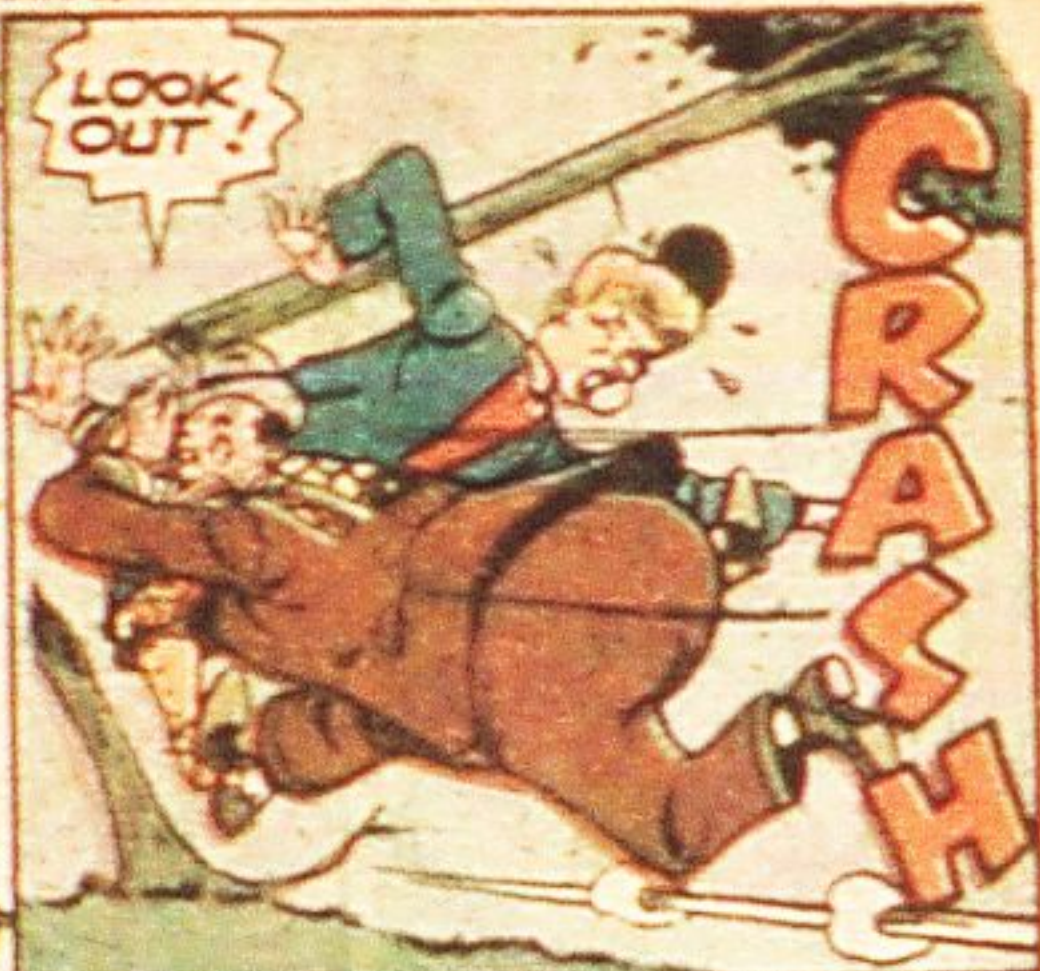
Andre gave the paper a minute examination, and checked through a thick book. "The boat has no name, Blackhawk. Could be the one used by those kids calling themselves the Crime Rats."

Blackhawk nodded. "Just as I thought. I believe you're right."

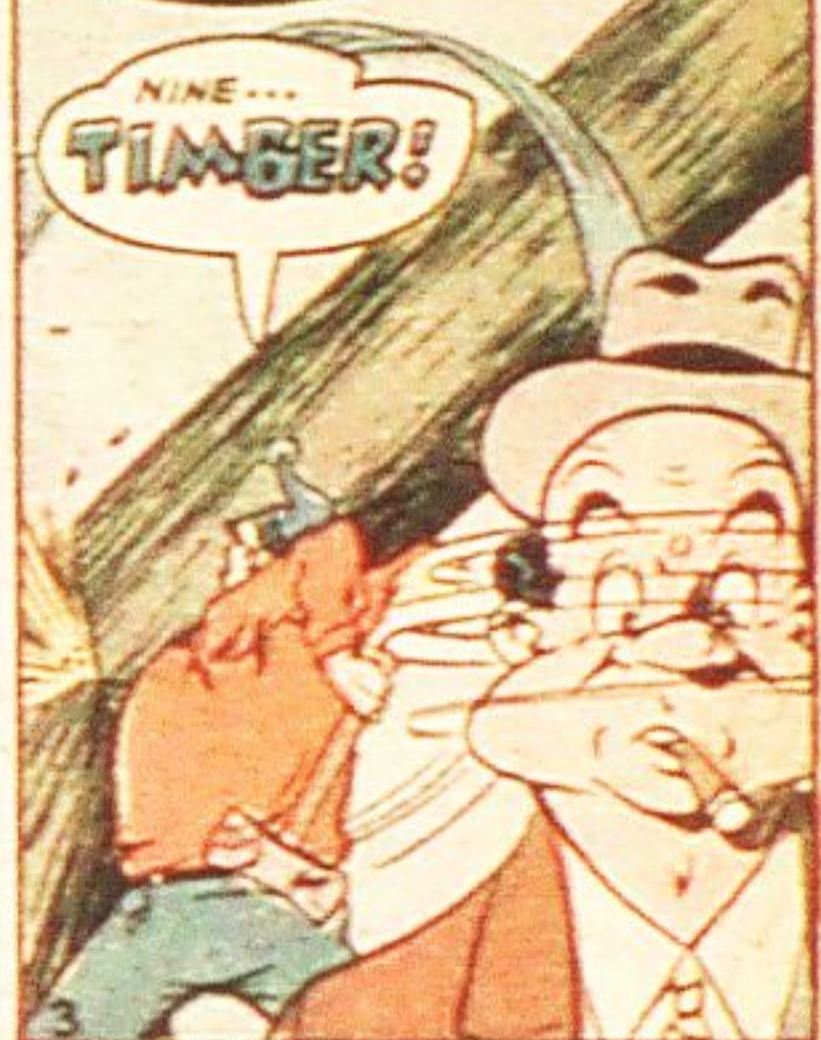
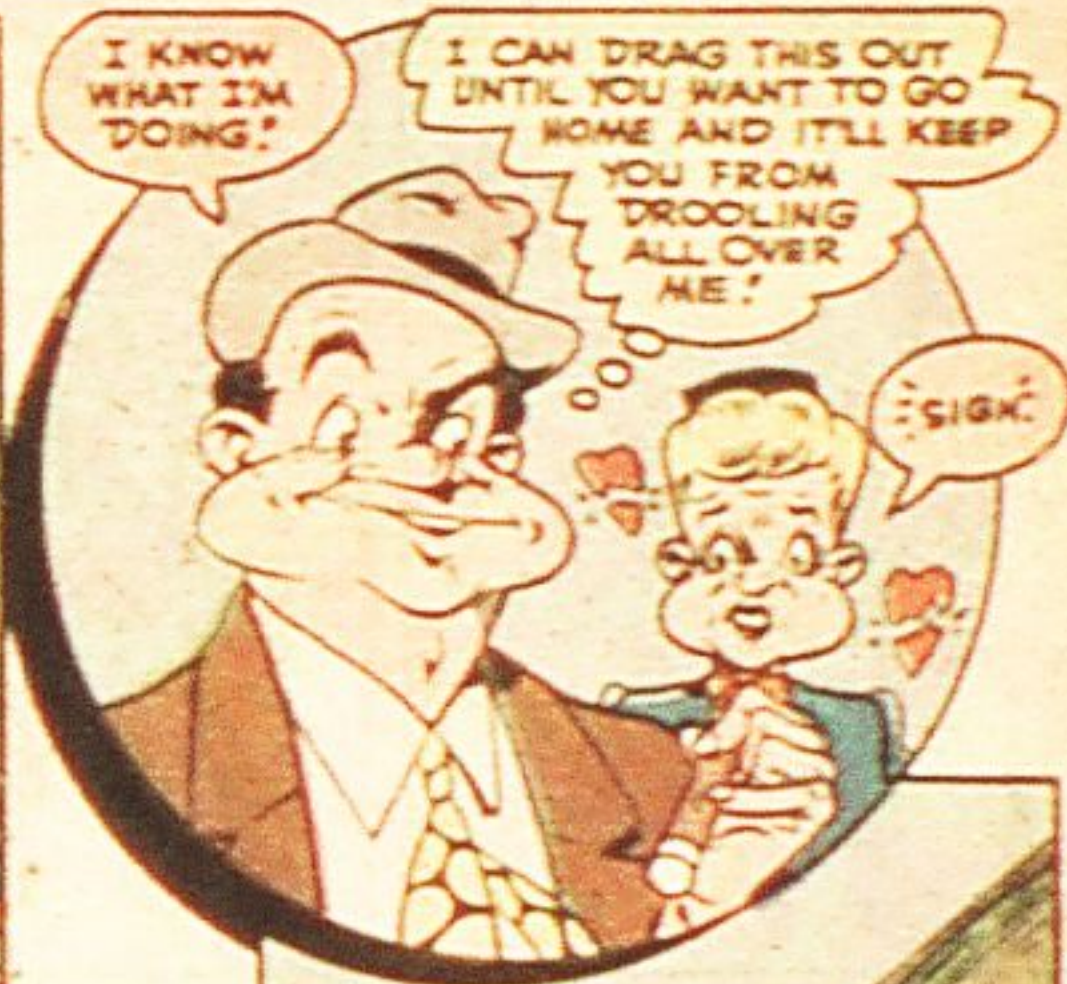
They flew on for a moment, then Blackhawk turned the plane and they headed downward, coming to a landing not far from the boat.

Louie said, "Hey, that Coast Guard boat's got our number. Crack out the machine-gun, Monty. Let 'em have it if they try to board us!"

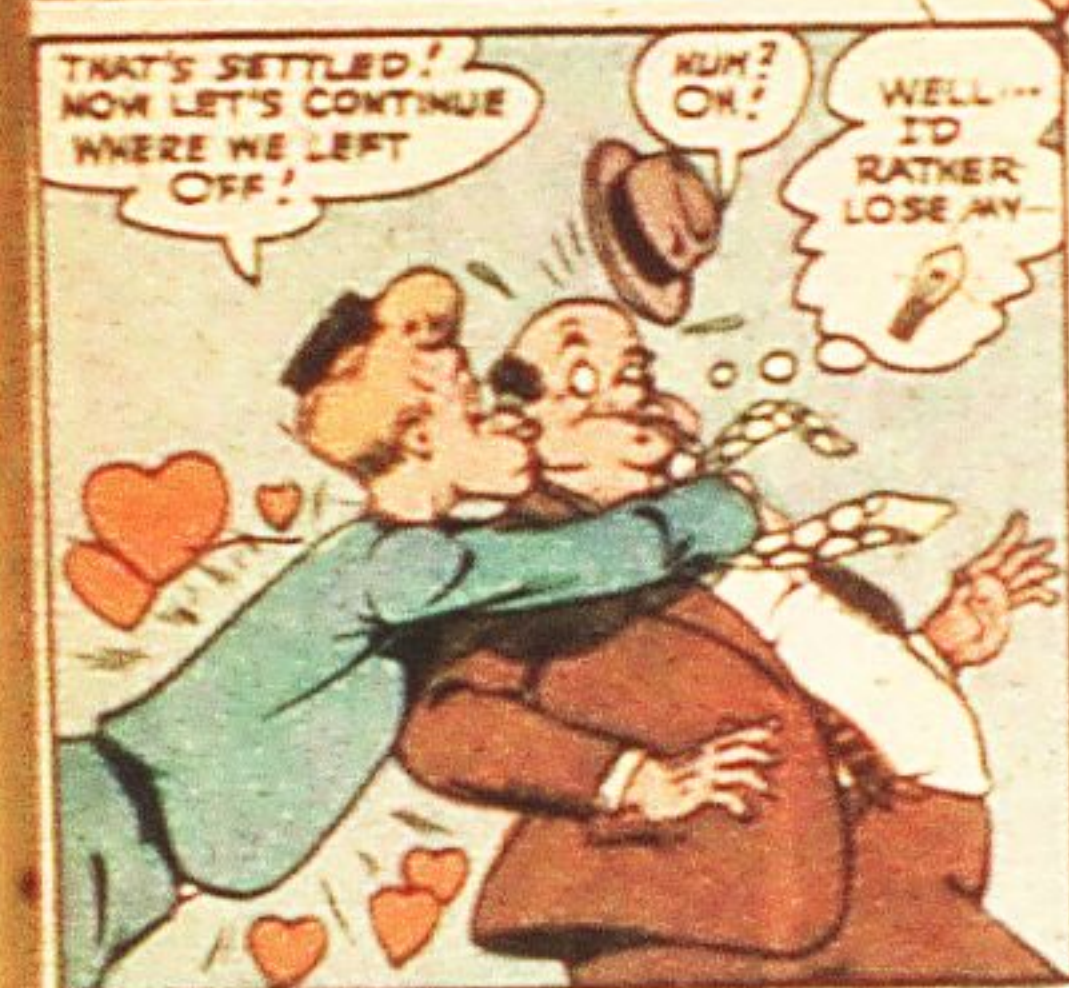


















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